



Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico

Region 6 REOC Update

Subject: Region 6 Update # 7
Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico

Date: May 4, 2010

To: Incident Command

Thru: Planning Section

From: Situation Unit

Reporting Period: May 3, 2010 1300 – May 4, 2010 1300

1. Background

Site Name:	Deepwater Horizon Incident	FPN#:	N10036
Mobilization Date:	4/27/2010	Start Date:	4/28/2010

2. Current Situation

- One EPA Representative is at Incident Command (Houma) and another EPA Representative is at Area Command (Robert), both are directly interfacing with Unified Command.

2.1 (USCG) Incident Command Post (Houma, LA)

- EPA Representatives are coordinating with Environmental, Safety, SCAT, and Operations Units to:
 - Obtain copies of requested plans;
 - Obtain environmental data plans and maps;
 - Obtain situation documents;
 - Coordinating the use of ASPECT for anticipated in-situ burn activities.
- Working with BP on establishing sub-sea dispersant testing and establishment of potential protocols.
- Coordinating Community Involvement support between Coast Guard and EPA.
- Acquired air monitoring data for worker health and safety collected off-shore, at the spill location in the Gulf.
- Coordinated sampling methodology and data dispersion plans between Unified Command and EPA.

2.2 (USCG) Area Command Post (Robert, LA)

- The Subsurface Dispersant test application is expected to continue until about 1000 hrs

- Samples collected from ROV in support of Dispersant test are being picked up this morning for transport to LSU for analysis.
- Aerial observation is expected to occur this morning from USCG, BP, and Aspect aircraft.
- Efforts continue to locate a vessel to support sampling and monitoring (Phase 1 plan) to support potential ongoing subsea dispersant application.
- NOAA is loading all available aerial imagery, booming strategy, SCAT data, and other data into ERMA
- NOAA is requesting that all available data feeds be directed to George Graettinger (george.graettinger@noaa.gov).

2.3 Air Monitoring/Sampling

- Air monitoring and sampling ongoing in Venice operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
 - Venice, LA - 29.25274 N, 89.35750 W - V02 - located at USCG (ongoing monitoring);
 - Boothville, LA - 29.31449 N, 89.38433 W - V03 - located at Welding Supply Co. (ongoing monitoring);
 - Fort Jackson, LA - 29.35714 N, 89.45605 W - V04 (being relocated due to increased dust at V04 location).
- Air monitoring and sampling ongoing in Chalmette operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
 - Chalmette, LA – 29.94562, -89.9721 – C01 - located at Fire Station number 3, near corner of Jackson Street and Judge Perez;
 - Poydras, LA – 29.86609, -89.89108 – C02 - located at Fire Station number 8;
 - Hopedale, LA – 29.82209, -89.60862 – C03 - located at the Emergency Operations Center.
- Each air monitoring location has 4 pieces of air equipment:
 - DataRAM - monitoring particulate matter;
 - AreaRae - monitoring VOCs;
 - PQ200 - samples for PM10 (particulates);
 - SUMMA Canisters per location - sample for VOCs.
- Heavy rains in Chalmette and Venice required the rigging of tarps to protect the monitoring stations and continue air monitoring activities.
- All air monitoring/sampling stations are monitored throughout the day (24 hours) for immediate reporting of any elevated VOC or particulate levels. The maximum reading is reported to the OSC at Area Command Post in Venice and Chalmette.
- Real-time air monitoring data from midnight to midnight each day is reviewed for field QA and uploaded into SCRIBE by 1200 each day and available to EPA Headquarters.
- 12 Summa canisters (for VOC) were collected during this operational period. Samples will be shipped before noon today. The 3 PM2.5 (for particulate) samples were prepared for shipment. To ensure proper temperature the filter samples will held on ice and shipped Tuesday. 12 Summa and 3 filter samples will be shipped Tuesday.
- Venice operations are relocating air sampling/monitoring location V04 due to increased traffic on road nearby causing dusty conditions.

- **EPA summary of air monitoring/sampling activities:**

Air Monitoring & Samples	DataRAM (PM10)	AreaRae	SUMMA Canisters	PM2.5	TOTALS FOR 5/3
Venice	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	9	3	12
Chalmette	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	12	3	15
TOTAL TO DATE	6 locs/24-hr	6 locs/24-hr	55	18	

*QAQC samples not included in sample count

2.4 Water/Sediment Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct water and sediment sampling at locations provided by EPA Headquarters and selected through National Coastline Condition Assessment (NCCA) program. The NCCA sample locations are sampled every four years by state agencies with U.S. Coastlines. Sample parameters and locations were also selected in coordination with the EPA Region 6 Water Quality Division.
- Water and sediment sampling not conducted in Chalmette operations on 5/3 due to poor weather conditions and fuel logistics issues (resolved). Water/sediment sampling team prepared for deployment to the Lake Borgne area to collect samples from the predetermined NCA-10 locations on 5/4.
- Venice water operations collected sediment and surface water samples from 2 locations near shore and 5 offshore locations. Sample teams sampling off-shore were unable to collect sediment at 4 locations due to water depth and potential currents.
- One water and sediment sampling team will be deployed this morning. They will collect 2 of the last 4 samples assigned to Venice Branch on 5/4.
- EPA summary of water/sediment activities:

Water/Sediment Samples	Water	Sediment	TOTALS FOR 5/3
Venice	7	3	10
Chalmette	0	0	0
TOTAL TO DATE	23	18	

*QAQC samples not included in sample count

2.5 TAGA

- On 5/3, TAGA 1554 performed mobile monitoring for (BTEX) in Southern, LA and Mississippi; from Dear Island, LA to Gautier, MS. No BTEX observed above low ppbv levels during any monitoring events - the concentrations observed were associated with vehicular traffic or isolated sources.

- On 5/4, TAGA 1553 continues to perform mobile monitoring for (BTEX) in Southeastern, LA and TAGA 1554 performs mobile monitoring for (BTEX) in Southern, LA and Mississippi.

2.6 ASPECT

- ASPECT plane is continuing to conduct over flights at the direction of EPA Representative based on current conditions provided by field teams and BP operations. Specifically, overflights will occur during dispersant applications and in-situ burns.
- On 5/3 conducted over flights near the drill rig and the potentially affected by the oil spill. Weather conditions prevented InfraRed photography and most viable photographs.
- Pilot reports indicate that many beaches in the Chandeleur Islands are oiled but the marshes show little visible change from yesterday. Visible oil was observed through very intense haze/fog. They are working to collect spectral data over an area that appears to have several ships working.
- On 5/4, a computer malfunction prevented early morning flights. Over flights were initiated at 1130 and targeted drill rig. Crew reported the definite edge of a major oil slick located at 29.4247N, 88.6813W (approximately 20 miles from the Chandeleur Islands). Crew also reported oil 2-3 miles offshore on the **west side** of the delta (position reported as 28.8792N 89.4257W).

2.7 Water Quality Protection Division Update

- The Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division provided a situation update including impact analysis, monitoring and assessment, and drinking water (see attached).

2.8 Summary of Air Quality Testing In Residential and Commercial Areas Along the Gulf Coast reported by CTEH (Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health) from 5/3

	# of Measurements	Avg Concentration (ppm)	Maximum Concentration (ppm)
VOCs	357	0	0
Hydrogen Sulfide	312	0	0
Sulfur Dioxide	191	0	0
Benzene	30	0	0
Total	890		

	# of Measurements	Avg Concentration (mg/m3)	Maximum Concentration (mg/m3)
Particulate Matter (PM10)	68	0.0362	0.077
Total	68		

3. EPA Assets

3.1 Current Assets Deployed

- Activated in Dallas, TX
 - REOC is activated
 - SRICT activated
 - RRT activated

Deployed Personnel

Personnel	Dallas, TX	Venice, LA	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
EPA								
- OSC	6	1		2		1		10
- RSC	4		1	1				6
- PIO			3					3
- Other					1			1
START	4	14				12		30
ERT Contractor		1						1
TAGA Personnel							10	10
ASPECT Personnel							4	4
Other								
TOTALS	14	16	4	3	1	13	14	65

Deployed Equipment

Equipment	Dallas, TX	Venice, LA	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
Mobile Command Post		1						1
ASPECT							1	1
TAGA Bus							2	2
TOTALS		1					3	4

3.2 Future Assets Deployed

- Additional OSCs as needed
- START personnel

4. Daily Cost Estimates

	EPA Personnel Est. Spent	EPA Travel Est. Spent	EPA Contracts Est. Spent	TOTAL Est. Spent	TOTAL Obligations	TOTAL USCG PRFA Ceiling	Balance	Est. Daily Burn Rate
USCG PRFA FPN N10036	\$72,600	\$13,596	\$399,300	\$485,496	\$916,696	\$1,000,000	\$514,504	\$119,110
TOTAL EPA Funded	\$72,600	\$13,596	\$399,300	\$485,496	\$916,696	\$1,000,000	\$514,504	\$119,110


Louisiana Total	\$72,600	\$13,596	\$399,300	\$485,496	\$916,696	\$1,000,000	\$514,504	\$119,110
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Figure 1 - Preparing for Boat Operations in Venice, LA

Monitoring/Sampling Locations



<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample Locations Asset Location Observed Oiling 5/4/2010 4:33 am (Partial dataset provided) Observed Oiling 5/3/2010 11:57pm 			<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>US EPA REGION 6 START-3 (For Official Use Only)</p> </div> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Situation Map</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">DATE: 5/4/2010</td> <td style="width: 33%;">W/O# P560</td> <td style="width: 33%;">SCALE:</td> </tr> </table>	DATE: 5/4/2010	W/O# P560	SCALE:
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The map displays the Gulf of Mexico coastline from Texas to Florida. Key locations marked include New Orleans, Lake Charles, Lakeport, and various oil spill response teams (e.g., T001-100000, T002-100000, T003-100000). The map also shows the Gulf of Mexico National Marine Sanctuary and the Gulf of Mexico National Marine Sanctuary.



Trajectory Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Estimate for: 1800 CDT, Tuesday, 5/04/10

Date Prepared: 2300 CDT, Monday, 5/03/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Monday, May 3 PM. Currents were obtained from the NOAA Gulf of Mexico model, Texas A&M/TGLO, and NAVO models. The model was initialized from SLAR data obtained during a Transport Canada overflight Monday AM. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization).

